International application No. INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT PCT/JP2004/013045 EST AVAILABLE COPY CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER Int.Cl7 G01H11/06 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) Int.Cl G01H11/06, G01P15/125 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2004 1922-1996 Jitsuyo Shinan Koho Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2004 1971-2004 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) JICST FILE (JOIS) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Category\* 1,2 Microfilm of the specification and drawings X 3,4 annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Y Model Application No. 171299/1987 (Laid-open No. 75859/1989) (Nihon Kohden Corp.), 23 May, 1989 (23.05.89), Full text; Figs. 1 to 3 (Family: none) 3 JP 59-79700 A (Katsuo IBI), Y 08 May, 1984 (08.05.84), Column 9; Fig. 6 & US 4516428 A & EP 107843 A See patent family annex. X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier application or patent but published on or after the international document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be "F" considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive filing date step when the document is taken alone document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is special reason (as specified) combined with one or more other such documents, such combination document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "O" being obvious to a person skilled in the art document published prior to the international filing date but later than document member of the same patent family the priority date claimed Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 19 October, 2004 (19.10.04) 30 September, 2004 (30.09.04) Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Japanese Patent Office

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